

844). Controller 504 disables power from driver 518 and display element 516, thereby turning off display area 132 (step 846). The method continues back at step 808 in FIG. 8A.

The visual information corresponding to step 844 may be the same as that described in relation to step 804 (time, date, etc.). Preferably, the visual information corresponding to step 844 includes information regarding the two-way call, such as the duration of the call, "units" of time used for the call, the amount of money charged for the call, or any combination of the above. Such information may be real or approximated; base station 104 may send this information to mobile station 102 and/or mobile station 102 may be equipped with a real time clock (not shown). Also preferably, if such preferred information is displaced, display area 516 displays similar or the same visual information as that described in relation to step 804 (time, date, etc.) after an expiration of a predetermined time period or after an actuation of one of the plurality of keys 144.

At step 832, housing portion 114 may not be opened after a detection of the incoming call, and thus controller 504 may not detect the control signal from switch 508. Controller 504 may detect an actuation of one of the plurality of keys 144 via key circuit 513 (step 848). In response thereto, controller 504 initiates an immediate forwarding of the incoming call to voice mail or to an answering device with memory, where a synthesized message is played to a caller and a voice message may be recorded (step 850).

At step 848, none of the plurality of keys 144 may be actuated after a detection of the incoming call, and thus controller 504 may not detect any signals from key circuit 513. Controller 504 continues to monitor detection of signals from switch 508 and key circuit 513 in steps 832 and 848.

The option described in relation to steps 848 and 850 may be preferred when it is not desired to answer the incoming call (perhaps upon viewing the visual information in display area 130) and to hear or feel signals from alert 509 or vibrator 511 for a long duration of time.

Mobile station 102 may operate display areas 130 and 132 in response to other input signals. For example, FIG. 4 shows a view 400 of a holster 408 having a side 410. Mobile station 102 has electrical contacts 404 (also FIG. 4) on a rear side 402 thereof. On an inside of side 410, holster has a conductive element 412 having a contact 412 and a contact 414. When mobile station 102 is outside of holster 408, display area 130 is powered off and display area 132 is powered on (if exposed). When mobile station 102 is inserted into holster 408, two of electrical contacts 404 are shorted from conductive element 412 and, in response to this, display area 130 is powered on by controller 504 while display area 132 is powered off.

FIG. 9 shows another alternate embodiment of a mobile station, in particular a mobile station 900. Mobile station 900 includes a housing portion 902 and a housing portion 904 coupled together via a hinge 905, where housing portion 904 is movable from open and closed positions. In FIG. 9, housing portion 904 is shown in the open position. Mobile station 902 also includes a retractable antenna 906 outwardly extendable from housing portion 902, a speaker 908 disposed in and outwardly directed from housing portion 902, a microphone 910 disposed in and outwardly directed from housing portion 904, and a keypad 912 carried on housing portion 902. Mobile station 902 includes a display area 914 outwardly directed from a front of housing portion 902, and a display area 916 outwardly directed from housing

portion 904. When housing portion 904 is moved to the closed position, display area 916 is obstructed from view, whereas display area 916 is available for viewing. Display area 914 preferably includes a single line LED display, and display area 916 preferably includes a large graphics LCD display. Mobile station 902 operates similarly or in the same way as mobile station 102 as described in relation to the flowchart of FIGS. 8A and 8B.

While particular embodiments of the present invention have been shown and described, modifications may be made. For example, display area 130 of FIG. 1 may be placed along any suitable side of housing portions 112 and 114 for displaying visual information to a user. It is therefore intended in the appended claims to cover all such changes and modifications which fall within the true spirit and scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A portable communication device with first and second display areas, the device comprising:

a common flexible display element wherein the first and second display areas are substantially perpendicular to each other and the common display element is bent to provide display portions to both the first and second display areas;

a radio transceiver configured to detect incoming paging calls and incoming telephone calls from a calling unit and to receive information corresponding thereto; and

a controller coupled to the transceiver and the display areas, the controller provides status information of the communication device and controls said first display area to display one of paging information and communication device status information therein and controls said second display area for displaying at least one of telephone call information, paging information and device status information therein, upon connection of the incoming call the controller transfers the information displayed in the first display area to the second display area, and turns off the first display area.

2. The portable communication device according to claim 1, wherein the device status information is alphanumeric information including at least one of date and time information, battery level indication, communication "in use" indication, roam indication, duration of a call, "units" of time used for a call, and an amount of money charged for a call.

3. The portable communication device according to claim 1, further comprising a backlight for the first and second display areas, the backlight is adapted to be independently toggled between on and off states through the actuation of a key.

4. The portable communication device according to claim 1, wherein said paging information includes messaging data and caller identification (caller ID) information of a calling unit upon receipt of a call therefrom.

5. The portable communication device according to claim 1, wherein upon actuation by a key on the communication device an incoming call is immediately forwarded to an answering system with memory, wherein a message is played to a caller and a message from the caller can be recorded.

6. The portable communication device according to claim 1, further comprising a movable element movable between an open position and a closed position detectable by the controller, wherein the movable element serves to cover the second display area in the closed position, and wherein

when said movable element is moved from the closed position to the open position said controller directs said